toxoid, and (c) elicits, in a mammal, an immunological response that is protective against type F botulinum toxin.

7. (Three Times Amended) A polypeptide composition [for use in manufacture of a vaccine, said composition] comprising:

(1) an isolated polypeptide according to claim 3[free of toxin activity and capable of inducing in a mammal, protective immunity against a botulinum toxin]; and

(2) [a] an isolated polypeptide that facilitates or enhances purification of the composition.

(Twice Amended) A polypeptide composition [according to claim 7 wherein the composition comprises a] comprising an isolated fusion protein of (1) a sequence of amino acids corresponding to a fragment or a derivative of a heavy chain of a type F botulinum neurotoxin, which polypeptide is (a) free of botulinum toxin activity, (b) is free of toxoid, and (c) elicits, in a mammal, an immunological response that it protective against type F botulinum toxin, and (2) a polypeptide that facilitates or enhances purification of the composition.

9. (Twice Amended) A polypeptide composition according to Claim 7 [comprising:

(1) an isolated polypeptide according to claim 2; and

(2) an] wherein said isolated polypeptide that facilitates or enhances purification of the composition is a polypeptide that binds a chromatography column.

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10. (Twice Amended) A polypeptide composition according to Claim [7] 9 [comprising a polypeptide adapted to bind to] wherein said chromatography column is an affinity chromatography column

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12. (Twice Amended) A vaccine comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a polypeptide according to claim [2] 3.

[2] <u>3</u>.

- 13. (Twice Amended) A recombinant DNA encoding a polypeptide according to claim
- 14. (Twice Amended) A method of producing a polypeptide according to claim [2] 3 comprising the steps of:
 - (a) expressing in a host cell a DNA encoding a fusion protein, said protein being a fusion of (i) a fragment or derivative of a type F botulinum toxin, and (ii) a moiety adapted to bind to a chromatography column,
 - (b) obtaining from said host cell an extract comprising the fusion protein, and
 - (c) purifying the fusion protein using a chromatography column.

19. (Twice Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(a) a fusion protein, said protein being a fusion of (i) [a polypeptide free of toxin activity and capable of inducing protective immunity against a botulinum toxin] a polypeptide as defined in claim 3, and (ii) a polypeptide that binds to a chromatography column; and

(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.